

Shot noise limits on binary detection in multiphoton imaging: supplement

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Supplementary Note 1

Here we show how Eq. (15) can be approximated using the Gaussian approximation. We consider the decision rule in Eq. (12), but we approximate p_0 and p_1 (an likewise c_0 and c_1) as Gaussian probability (and cumulative) distributions, with means $\mu_0 = B$, and $\mu_1 = S + B$, and variances, $\sigma_0^2 = B$, and $\sigma_1^2 = S + B$. We note that in this case γ is no longer restricted to an integer because the Gaussian distribution is not discrete. Thus without considering randomization for a moment, when the threshold γ is to be used to do the classification (as is the case in Eq. (6)), then one can write

$$P_F = 1 - c_0(\gamma) = 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{\gamma - \mu_0}{\sigma_0}\right), \quad (\text{S1})$$

and

$$P_D = 1 - c_1(\gamma) = 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{\gamma - \mu_1}{\sigma_1}\right), \quad (\text{S2})$$

where $\Phi(x) = 0.5\text{erfc}(-x/\sqrt{2})$ is the standard normal cumulative distribution function. Thus, it is possible to have arbitrary P_F and P_D without randomization, and so randomization is no longer employed (i.e., we can set q arbitrarily in Eq. (12)) [1,2]. Thus, we have that P_D and P_F will be simily given by Eqs. (S1) and (S2), and so we have that the maximum P_D given a P_F is

$$P_D(P_F) = 1 - \Phi\left[\frac{\sigma_0}{\sigma_1}\Phi^{-1}(1 - P_F) + \frac{\mu_0 - \mu_1}{\sigma_1}\right]. \quad (\text{S3})$$

The AUC is then computed as

$$\text{AUC} = \int_0^1 dP_F P_D(P_F) = \Phi\left(\frac{\mu_1 - \mu_0}{\sqrt{\sigma_0^2 + \sigma_1^2}}\right) = \Phi\left(\frac{S}{\sqrt{S + 2B}}\right). \quad (\text{S4})$$

The integral can be solved using Feynman's trick and results in the approximation in Eq. (16).

Supplementary Note 2

Here we show how the signal calculations in section 3.1 are performed. We assume that the signal is determined by a diffraction limited focus, thus under the paraxial approximation we have that [3]

$$S_2 \approx \frac{1}{2} g^{(2)} \phi CT \eta \sigma_2 n_0 \frac{8 \langle P(t) \rangle^2}{\pi \lambda} \exp(-2z / \ell_e) \quad (\text{S5})$$

and,

$$S_3 \approx \frac{1}{3} g^{(3)} \phi CT \eta \sigma_3 n_0 \frac{3.5(\text{NA})^2 \langle P(t) \rangle^3}{\lambda^3} \exp(-3z / \ell_e) \quad (\text{S6})$$

where $g^{(n)} = g_p^{(n)} / (f\tau)^{n-1}$ is the n^{th} order temporal coherence and $g_p^{(n)}$ is a numerical parameter which is calculated based on the pulse shape. Here we have assumed that ℓ_e (typically $>100 \mu\text{m}$) is much greater than the axial resolution of the microscope (typically $<10 \mu\text{m}$).

Due to our constraint on saturation, the repetition rate is calculated as [3],

$$f = \frac{1}{\tau} \frac{\langle I_0(t) \rangle}{I_p} = \frac{1}{\tau} \frac{\pi(\text{NA})^2}{I_p \lambda^2} \langle P(t) \rangle \exp(-z / \ell_e) \quad (\text{S7})$$

where $\langle I_0(t) \rangle$ is the time-average intensity at the focus, and I_p is the peak intensity at the focus, which can be written in terms of the saturation parameter, α_{sat} , as [3],

$$I_p = \left(\frac{\alpha_{sat}}{g_p^{(n)} \sigma_n \tau} \right)^{1/n}. \quad (\text{S8})$$

Thus, putting everything together one finds that,

$$S_2 = \frac{8}{2\pi^2} \phi C T \eta n_0 \frac{\alpha_{sat}^{1/2} \lambda \sigma_2^{1/2} (g_p^{(2)})^{1/2}}{\tau^{1/2} (NA)^2} \langle P(t) \rangle e^{-z/\ell_e} \quad (\text{S9})$$

and

$$S_3 = \frac{3.5}{3\pi^2} \phi C T \eta n_0 \frac{\alpha_{sat}^{2/3} \lambda \sigma_3^{1/3} (g_p^{(3)})^{1/3}}{\tau^{2/3} (NA)^2} \langle P(t) \rangle e^{-z/\ell_e}. \quad (\text{S10})$$

We note from Eqs. (S9) and (S10), that small changes in α_{sat} will not significantly affect the results. Since α_{sat} is raised to the 1/2 and 2/3 for 2P and 3P excitation, respectively, the ratio of S_3 to S_2 is proportional to $\alpha_{sat}^{1/6}$. Therefore, exact knowledge of α_{sat} is inconsequential for the comparison of 2P and 3P imaging quality performed in section 3.1 provided α_{sat} is of reasonable values for typical imaging experiments.

Supplemental Figures

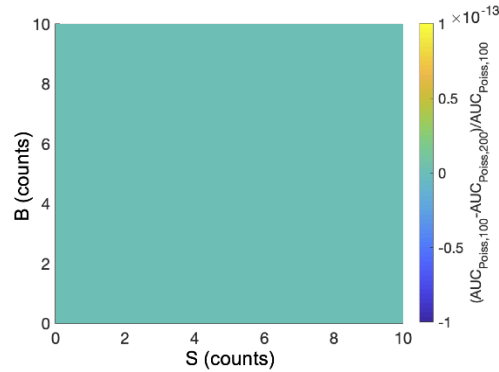


Fig. S1. Relative error between the AUC computed with 100 and 200 terms (defined as $(\text{AUC}_{\text{Pois},100} - \text{AUC}_{\text{Pois},200}) / \text{AUC}_{\text{Pois},200}$) is shown for the range of S and B in Fig. 1. The differences are negligible.

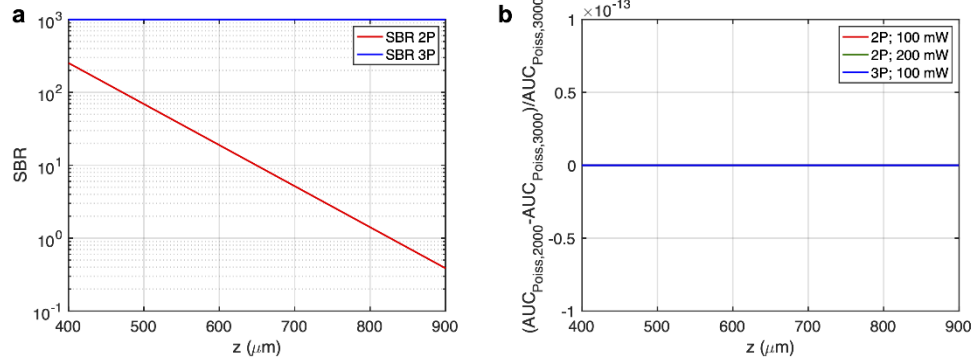


Fig. S2. (a) SBR as a function of depth used in Fig. 4. (b) Relative error between the AUC computed with 2000 and 3000 terms (defined as $(AUC_{\text{Poiss},2000} - AUC_{\text{Poiss},3000}) / AUC_{\text{Poiss},3000}$) is shown for the range of S and B in Fig. 4. The differences are negligible. Note also that the 2P and 3P lines are on top of each other.

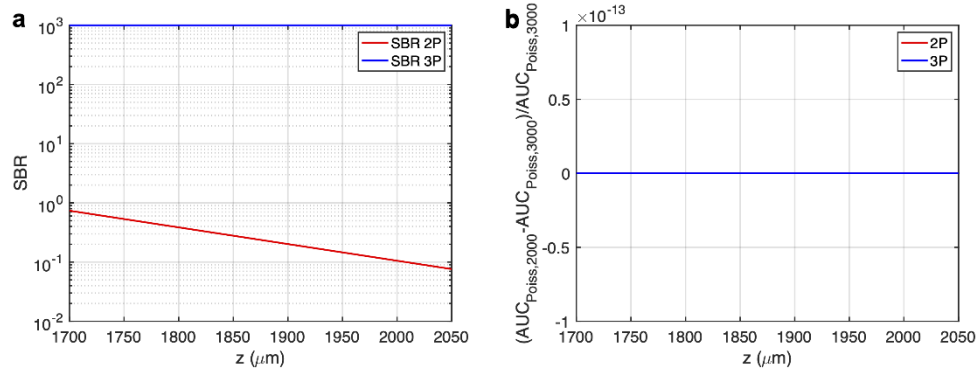


Fig. S3. (a) SBR as a function of depth used in Fig. 5. (b) Relative error between the AUC computed with 2000 and 3000 terms (defined as $(AUC_{\text{Poiss},2000} - AUC_{\text{Poiss},3000}) / AUC_{\text{Poiss},3000}$) is shown for the range of S and B in Fig. 5. The differences are negligible. Note also that the 2P and 3P lines are on top of each other.

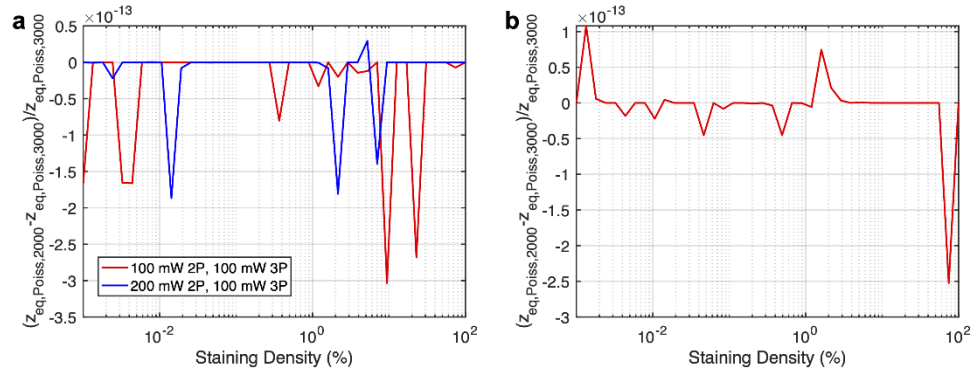


Fig. S4. Relative error between the z_{eq} computed with 2000 and 3000 terms (defined as $(z_{eq,\text{Poiss},2000} - z_{eq,\text{Poiss},3000}) / z_{eq,\text{Poiss},3000}$) is shown for the range of staining density in (a) Fig. 6a and (b) Fig. 6b. The differences are negligible.

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